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New Literature

The most important books listed in these columns will receive notice in the book-review pages.

OLD TESTAMENT

BOOKS

ROBINSON, EMMA A. *The Story of Our Bible.* Cincinnati: Jennings & Graham, 1911. Pp. 110.

A most simple telling of the origin and history of our modern English Bible, from the time of the first Hebrew manuscripts down to the present. The author's endeavor is to make the story of interest and value for boys and girls. If she has not succeeded, it is doubtful whether anybody else can.

WADE, G. W. *The Book of the Prophet Isaiah, with Introduction and Notes.* [The Westminster Commentaries.] London: Methuen & Co., 1911. Pp. lxxxii+431. 10s. 6d.

An excellent commentary for popular use. The text of the Revised Version is used. The standpoint is that of modern historical criticism and the author's application of the critical method is not radical, but cautious. His caution leads him too often to leave undecided questions as to the date and authorship of materials which are really no longer open. The author recognizes three "Isaiahs," besides calling upon many editorial pens to help in producing the final form of the Book of Isaiah.

BERTHOLET, A. *Die jüdische Religion von der Zeit Ezras bis zum Zeitalter Christi.* [Biblische Theologie des Alten Testaments. Band ii.] Tübingen: Mohr, 1911. Pp. xv+546. M. 10.

This completes the task begun by B. Stade and interrupted by his death. This volume begins with Ezra and carries the religion of Israel on down to the beginning of the ministry of Jesus. It represents sound scholarly methods and a proper conception of the task to be done. On account of the extreme uncertainty that prevails regarding the dates of the origin of most of the sources for the period after Ezra, it is inevitable that much difference of opinion will prevail as to the true course of the religious thought of this period. But all workers will find the book of exceptional value because of its vigor and suggestiveness.

KAUTZSCH, E. *Biblische Theologie des Alten Testaments.* Tübingen: Mohr, 1911. Pp. xv+409. M. 8.

Dr. Karl Kautzsch has edited the German text of his father's well-known article on the religion of Israel in Hastings' *Dictionary of the Bible*. This is the first appearance of the German original. It differs in no essential point from the English version. But much fuller bibliographical citations are here given and they are brought up to date. It will be greatly appreciated by German students.

RICHARDSON, ERNEST C. *Some Old Egyptian Librarians.* New York: Scribner, 1911. Pp. 93. 75 cents.

A clever essay setting forth the fact that libraries took their rise much farther back in the course of human history than is generally supposed.

ZERBE, A. S. *The Antiquity of Hebrew Writing and Literature, or Problems in Pentateuchal Criticism.* Cleveland: Central Publishing House, 1911. Pp. 297. \$1.50.

A labored effort to prove that "the Pentateuch in its underlying parts is to be ascribed to Moses." Half of the book is given to a consideration of the origin of the

alphabet and the antiquity of Hebrew writing. Professor Zerbe is not equally at home in all phases of this great subject, nor does he always rely upon the best authorities.

ARTICLES

DRIVER, S. R. "The Book of Judges." *The Expositor*, November, 1911, pp. 385-404.

The first of a series of articles intended to serve as a general introduction to the Book of Judges.

SAYCE, A. H. "The Jews and Their Temple in Elephantine." *Ibid.*, pp. 417-34.

A presentation of the more significant questions raised by the publication of the balance of the Aramaic papyri discovered at Assuan. Professor Sayce makes an effort to save the traditional interpretation of the Mosaic law with the aid of these documents.

COOK, S. A. "The Study of Composite Writings in the Old Testament." *The Journal of Theological Studies*, October, 1911, pp. 84-93.

Emphasis is here laid upon the fact that the Old Testament is only a fragment of the total literature of Israel and that the multiplication of sources in the Old Testament only makes more difficult the task of tracing its history and significance.

NEW TESTAMENT

ARTICLES

WILLIAMS, C. R. A Word Study of Hebrews XIII. *Journal of Biblical Literature*, Part II, 1911, pp. 129-36.

An examination of the words used in Hebrews, chaps. 1-12 and in chap. 13 leads Mr. Williams to think that chap. 13 cannot be divorced from the preceding chapters, that it is improbable that it was written in imitation of chaps. 1-12, and that as a whole it is by the same writer with them and was written to accompany them.

TORREY, C. C. The Authorship and Character of the So-called Epistle to the Hebrews. *Ibid.*, pp. 137-56.

With reference to Harnack's suggestion that Prisca wrote Hebrews, Professor Torrey finds the evidence decidedly adverse to that position. He inclines to the view that the work was probably originally a sermon rather than an epistle (cf. 11:32). It was early taken to Rome, and received in the process those additional verses which give it its apparent epistolary character.

GOODSPEED, E. J. First Clement Called Forth by Hebrews. *Ibid.*, pp. 157-60.

It is argued that the Epistle of Clement to the Corinthians, in which Hebrews finds its earliest reflection, was called forth by the appeal in Hebrews to its leaders to become teachers instead of continuing to need instruction.

RICHMOND, WILFRID. Note on the Great Omission by St. Luke of St. Mark 6:45-8:3. *Expositor*, December, 1911, pp. 547-53.

Mr. Richmond seeks to explain Luke's omission of this group of sections of Mark, by his purpose of setting in relief as the turning-point of Jesus' ministry the time at which he "began to face and foretell" his approaching death. In this way Luke made room for, and led up to his own addition to the story of that period, the so-called "Great Interpolation" (9:51-18:14, 19:1-28).

RELATED SUBJECTS

BOOKS

LEWIS, GEORGE. The Philocalia of Origen: A Compilation of Selected Passages from Origen's Works Made by St. Gregory of Nazianzus and St. Basil of Caesarea. Translated into English. Edinburgh: Clark, 1911. Pp. xvi+242.

The collection of select passages from the works of Origen which goes by the name of *Philocalia* is made easily accessible to English readers by this attractive edition.

A fuller critical introduction and a table of biblical citations would have made Mr. Lewis' book more useful to serious students of early Christian literature, but it is nevertheless a welcome addition to the translated works of Origen.

BURTON, MARGARET E. *The Education of Women in China*. New York: F. H. Revell, 1911. Pp. 232. \$1.25.

This attractive presentation of the recent remarkable Chinese movement for woman's education is based upon personal observation in China and upon careful study of the sources and literature of the subject. It is an illuminating treatment of a most timely subject, and should have a wide influence.

SPIVAK, DR. C. D. and BLUMGARTEN, SOL. *Yiddish Dictionary*, containing all the Hebrew and Chaldaic elements of the Yiddish Language, illustrated with proverbs and idiomatic expressions. New York: Yehoash Publication Society, 1911. pp. xxxi+340.

Yiddish is the conventional language of the Jews of central and western Europe and America. It is a hybrid tongue made up of several languages but all written in Hebrew script. The "foreword" of the *Dictionary* gives a rapid sketch of the linguistic contacts of the Jews from their captivity in Babylonia to the present, discusses the presence of foreign words in their language, and cites two aims in the present effort: (1) to give a full and complete collection of Yiddish words for the philologist; (2) a complete vocabulary for the reader of Yiddish. The introduction briefly cites some of the fundamental grammatical principles of the language, of which 80 per cent consists of German and Slavic words. Though written wholly in Yiddish, Dr. Spivak has made a useful beginning for those who wish to pursue a study of this curious modern tongue.

JEVONS, F. B. *The Idea of God in Early Religions* [Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature]. Cambridge: University Press, 1911. Pp. 170. 40 cents.

A very concise and yet clear statement of some of the most elementary facts and principles in the field of primitive religion. It constitutes for the average man an excellent introduction to the subject of the comparative study of religion.

KLEIN, FÉLIX. *America of Tomorrow*. Chicago: McClurg, 1911. Pp. xii+359. \$1.75 net.

Interesting and sympathetic impressions of American life and problems, from the point of view of an intelligent and liberal French Catholic. The introduction is written by Professor C. R. Henderson, a close friend of Abbé Klein.

WEBSTER, H. *Rest Days: A Sociological Study*. Lincoln, Nebraska: University Studies, 1911. Pp. 158.

A valuable compilation of data from which it appears that "rest days" have been observed from the earliest times throughout the world. He who approaches the Hebrew sabbath by way of this study will find in it new significance.